

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 179

By Jones S

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ralph L. Hillis of McMinnville.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, many of these outstanding individuals go on to serve their country, State, and communities with as much dignity and integrity in other endeavors, such as public service, professional aspirations, and church involvement; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ralph L. Hillis; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Hillis was an exemplary individual who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a noble member of America's Greatest Generation, Mr. Hillis served with courage and gallantry in World War II; his great bravery and ability in combat earned him a Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, a citizen of McMinnville his entire life, Mr. Hillis worked with acumen and alacrity for Caney Fork Electric and earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Hillis led a very fulfilling life outside of work; an avid fisherman, he was also a highly-involved member of the McMinnville VFW; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hillis was an active and devout member of the Church of Christ, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hillis was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Hillis enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of fifty-nine years, Bonnie L. Miller, and was the proud parent of Elaine Rains and Danny Hillis; he is further survived by two sisters, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Ralph L. Hillis leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional soldier, public servant, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ralph L. Hillis, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his meritorious service to his country in World War II, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Hillis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.